

THE OCCURRENCE OF BALD CYPRESS (*TAXODIUM DISTICHUM* (L.) RICHARD) IN SUFFOLK COUNTY, LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK. In October, 1972, Mr. Richard Fackovec, a student in an aquatic botany course at Southampton College, brought to our attention a specimen of *Taxodium distichum* that he collected along the shore of Long Pond in Sag Harbor, New York. We returned to investigate the region in November and found eight bald cypress seedlings, ranging in height from one to 2½ meters and growing close to shore in 0.5-0.7 meters of water. The four smallest trees (approximately one meter tall) are growing close together at the southern end of the pond at the edge of a large marsh. The other cypress trees are located at the southern end of the pond also, but along the western shore. The two largest trees (2½ and 1½ meters tall) are at the edge of a large stand of *Typha latifolia*. Most of the remaining shoreline of Long Pond consists of very dense vegetation composed primarily of shrubs and small trees (e.g., *Myrica gale*, *Decodon verticillata*, *Cassandra calyculata*, *Vaccinium corymbosum*, *Nyssa sylvatica*, *Acer rubrum*). It is within this shrub zone that we found two additional bald cypress seedlings. One had become encompassed so completely by encroaching shoreline vegetation that we removed it; subsequently, it has been replanted along the shore of a pond in the Morton Wildlife Refuge, a Federal Wildlife Preserve in Noyac, New York.

We have communicated with Dr. Richard Stalter, plant taxonomist at St. Johns University in Jamaica, New York, regarding the northern distribution of *Taxodium distichum*. As far as we have been able to determine, this is the first record of a natural population of bald cypress in New York State. The closest naturally-occurring populations of *Taxodium* are in Delaware, where there are a few large colonies (Stalter, personal communication). There was, at one time, a colony in New Jersey, but it has been unknown in that state for several years (Stalter, personal communication).

Accompanied by Dr. Stalter, we returned to Long Pond in December in an unsuccessful effort to locate mature bald cypress trees. We share the opinion with Dr. Statler that this colony of *Taxodium distichum* represents a naturalized population. The presence of a few bald cypress seedlings in relatively inaccessible portions of the shoreline strongly suggests that they were not planted. The apparent absence of large bald cypress in the area leaves unanswered the question as to how the seedlings became established; hopefully, further investigation will afford us an answer.

The voucher specimen collected by Mr. Fackovec is deposited in the Southampton College Herbarium.

EDWARD J. HEHRE  
PETER M. BOLLARD  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY  
SOUTHAMPTON COLLEGE  
SOUTHAMPTON, NEW YORK 11968